Message Text

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R 040800Z MAY 78 FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4512 INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

CONFIDENTISL SOFIA 0816

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: RO

SUBJECT: IMPENDING CHANGE OF ROMANIAN AMBASSADORS

- 1. FIVE YEARS, FIVE MONTHS, AND FIVE DAYS AFTER HIS APPOINT-MENT, ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR TROFIN SIMEDREA IS LEAVING SOFIA ON OR ABOUT MAY 17. THIS WAS SIMEDREA'S FIRST DIPLOMATIC ASSIGNMENT. HE HAS BEEN A FRIENDLY AND HELPFUL MEMBER OF THE DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY HERE. WHILE APPROPRIATELY DISCREET, HE HAS BEEN PREPARED TO DISCUSS BALKAN, WARSAW, AND ROMANIAN AFFIRS IN A REASONABLE FASION.
- 2. SIMEDREA STATES THAT HE WILL BE RETURNING TO WORK IN BUCHAREST, BUT THAT IT HAS NOT YET BEEN DECPDED WHETHER HE WILL WORK IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OR IN THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE. IF IN THE CZNTRAL COMMITTEE, HE MIGHT OR MIGHT NOT CONTINUE TO BE CONCERMED WITH FOREIGN AFFAIRS. WHILE HE DID NOT SAY SO DIRECTLY, I HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT HE MAY BECOME RESPONSIBLE FOR BALKAN AFFAIRS EITHER IN THE MFA LOR CENTRAL COMMITTEE. HE DID STATE THAT CEAUSESCU WOULD MAKE THE FINAL DECISION ON HIS ASSIGNMENO, AND THAT HE MAY NOT KNOW UNTIL HE MEETS PERSONALLY WITH CEAUSESCU.
- 3. SIMEDREA STATES THAT HIS SUCCESSOR, TENATIVELY ARRIVING IN EARLY JUNE, WILL BE STEFAN BOBUSH(SP?). HE SAID CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT BOBUSH IS A LONG-TIME ACQUAINTANCE OF HIS; 55; GOING TO HIS FIRST DIPLOMATIC ASSIGNMENT; SPEAKS RUSSIAN; AND HAS SERVED FOR 17 YEARS BOTH AS FIRST SECRETARY AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT LEADER IN TWO MOLDAVIAN PROVINCES (SUCCAVA AND ANOTHER).

4. ON SEVERAL RECENT OCCASIONS, SIMEDREA HAS EMPHASIZED

THE VERY GREAT SUCCESS OF PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU'S VISIT TO THE US. HE SAID THAT CEAUSESCU HAD STATED THAT IT WAS THE MOST SUCCEYSFUL VISIT HE HAS EVER MADE.

5. SIMEDREA IS ORIGINALLY FROM CLUJ AND SAID HE MAY SOME DAY RETURN THZRE TO TEACH AT THE UNIVERSITY. WHEN ASKED, HE SOUGHT TO DOWNPLAY THZ SIGNIFICANCE OF HUNGARIAN DISSATISFACTION IN TRANSYLVANIA, STRESSING THE FULL AVAILABILITY OF HUNGARIAN SCHOOLS AND CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES, AND STRICTLY PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION. THE SIMEDREAS ARE HAPPY TO BE RZTURNING TO BUCHAREST,O WHERE THEIR DAUGHTER-- REPUTEDLY A MATHEMATICAL GENIUS -- IS NOW IN SCHOOL.

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